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AUG 24 2007

Serial No. 10/625,726
Docket No. PA4955US

7

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1-11 have been amended to more particularly define the claimed invention. Claims 12-20 have been added.

It is noted that the claim amendments are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Claims 6 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly directed to nonpatentable subject matter. Applicant respectfully submits that these claims have been amended to address the Examiner's concerns, and that therefore, these claims are clearly directed to patentable subject matter. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly unpatentable over Kikuchi et al. (U. S. Pat. No. 6,553,180). Claims 3 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Kikuchi. These rejections are respectfully traversed in view of the following discussion.

I. THE CLAIMED INVENTION

An exemplary aspect of the claimed invention (e.g., as defined by claim 1) is directed to an image reproduction apparatus for reproducing first image data and second image data recorded in a recording medium having a first image area storing the first image data for computer processing and a second image area storing the second image data for digital video equipment using the first image data as a source. The image reproduction apparatus includes display control means for displaying on display means a selection screen for receiving selection by a user of the first image area or the second image area, and selection reception means for receiving the selection of the first image area or the second image area in the selection screen.

Importantly, the apparatus also includes reproduction control means for reproducing the first image data in the first image area in the case where the first image area has been

Serial No. 10/625,726
Docket No. PA4955US

8

selected and for reproducing the second image data in the second image area in the case where the second image area has been selected (Application at Figure 5; page 20, line 17 to page 22, line 21). This may allow the claimed invention to selectively reproduce first or second image data with ease from the recording medium (Application at page 7, lines 11-14).

Another exemplary aspect of the claimed invention (e.g., as recited in claim 7) is directed to an image recording apparatus for recording, in a recording medium, first image data for computer processing and second image data for digital video equipment using the first image data as a source.

Importantly, the image recording apparatus includes display control means for calculating a first data size regarding the first image data and a second data size regarding the second image data, and for displaying a screen including the first data size and the second data size on display means (Application at Figures 9 and 13; page 22, line 22-page 30, line 7).

This may allow a user to record the first and second image data sets in the recording medium within the capacity of the recording medium (Application at page 30, lines 8-17).

II. THE ALLEGED PRIOR ART REFERENCE

The Examiner alleges that Kikuchi teaches the claimed invention of claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10 and 11, and makes obvious the invention of claims 3 and 9. Applicant would submit, however, that Kikuchi does not teach or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention.

In particular, nowhere does Kikuchi teach or suggest an **image reproduction apparatus** which includes "*reproduction control means for reproducing the first image data in the first image area in the case where the first image area has been selected and for reproducing the second image data in the second image area in the case where the second image area has been selected*", as recited in claim 1 (Application at Figure 5; page 20, line 17 to page 22, line 21). As noted above, this may allow the claimed invention to selectively reproduce first or second image data with ease from the recording medium (Application at page 7, lines 11-14).

Likewise Kikuchi does not teach or suggest an **image recording apparatus** which includes "*display control means for calculating a first data size regarding the first image data and a second data size regarding the second image data, and for displaying a screen*

Serial No. 10/625,726
Docket No. PA4955US

9

comprising the first data size and the second data size on display means", as recited, for example, in claim 7 (Application at Figures 9 and 13; page 22, line 22-page 30, line 7). As noted above, this may allow a user to record the first and second image data sets in the recording medium within the capacity of the recording medium (Application at page 30, lines 8-17).

Clearly, these features are not taught or suggested by Kikuchi.

Indeed, with respect to claim 1, the Examiner attempts to rely on Figure 40 in Kikuchi to support his position. Specifically, the Examiner attempts equate the display unit 48 in Kikuchi with the reproduction control means of the claimed invention. This is clearly unreasonable.

In fact, Kikuchi simply discloses that display unit 48 may display "DVD-RW" when a set disc 10 is a new DVD-RW disc (col. 40, lines 49-50), a recording mode and bit rate (col. 40, lines 58-59), a prompt for prompting user to exchange the disc (col. 40, lines 64-65), and title and chapter number (col. 42, lines 41-44). That is, nowhere does Kikuchi teach or suggest that the display unit 48 may reproduce first image data in the first image area in the case where the first image area has been selected (e.g., selected by a user) and for reproducing the second image data in the second image area in the case where the second image area has been selected (e.g., selected by a user).

Therefore, Kikuchi clearly does not teach or suggest the invention of claim 1.

Further, with respect to claim 7, the Examiner attempts to rely on col. 45, lines 20-25 in Kikuchi to support his position. Specifically, the Examiner alleges that "the 'Setup' key is used to set the screen size, which means the image size can be set with the 'Setup key'" (Office Action at page 5). However, the Examiner's allegations are completely unreasonable.

In fact, this passage on which the Examiner relies simply refers to the screen size/aspect ratio. That is, Kikuchi teaches that a user can select an aspect ratio (e.g., 16:9 or 4:3) for displaying a video. This has nothing to do with the claimed invention. Indeed, nowhere does Kikuchi teach or suggest the "setup key" is used to calculate a first data size regarding the first image data and a second data size regarding the second image data. Indeed, the setup key is used to simply input information and has nothing to do with "calculating" anything.

Moreover, the setup key is simply a key and has no display function. Therefore, the

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTERSerial No. 10/625,726
Docket No. PA4955US

10

AUG 24 2007

setup key clearly does not display a screen including the first data size and the second data size on display means. Therefore, it is completely unreasonable to attempt to equate the setup key in Kikuchi with the display control means of the claimed invention.

Therefore, Applicant would submit that Kikuchi clearly does not teach or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

III. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

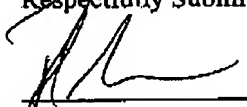
In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-20, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Date: 8/24/07

Respectfully Submitted,


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Serial No. 10/625,726
Docket No. PA4955US

11

AUG 24 2007

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the foregoing was filed by facsimile with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Examiner Tat Chi Chio, Group Art Unit # 2621 at fax number (571) 273-8300 this 24th day of August, 2007.



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